

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A system for automatically retrieving and playing multimedia files including video information, comprising:
 - an interface through which access to a data network may be attained;
 - a scheduler which is configurable to receive a listing of multimedia files including video information, organized according to [[a]] predetermined ~~criteria~~ categories, which are accessible on at least one multimedia website;
 - a selection interface which provides for presentation of the listing, and is configured to receive and process selections for accessing selected multimedia files including video information from the at least one multimedia website and compiling a download schedule; and
 - a file download device, which based on the download schedule, automatically accesses the remote sites through the interface and downloads the selected multimedia file including video information.
2. (Original) The system of claim 1 further including a centralized website employable for generating the listing based on connections established with the at least one multimedia website and providing the listing to the scheduler.
3. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the data network is the Internet.
4. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the interface, scheduler, selection interface, and download device are configured on a personal computer.
5. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein at least one of: the scheduler, the selection interface, and the file download device are configured as plugins in a web browser installed in the personal computer.

6. (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the selection interface includes at least one of:

a first selection for real time play of the multimedia files which are downloaded; and

a second selection for storing in a memory the multimedia files which are downloaded in memory.

7. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein an interface is provided for selecting categories from which the listing is created.

8. (Original) The system of claim 6 further including a memory to which the multimedia files may be downloaded.

9. (Original) The system of claim 6 wherein the system includes a media player for playing the multimedia files in real time.

10. (Currently amended) A method of retrieving multimedia files including video information over a data network from a remote site in connection with the data network, comprising the steps of:

receiving a listing for the multimedia files for accessing multimedia files including video information on at least one multimedia website;

presenting an interactive interface which includes the listing and through which individual selections may be made for downloading the multimedia files including video information from the at least one multimedia website;

receiving an input through the interface selecting a particular number of the multimedia files including video information from the listing;

compiling a download schedule based on the received inputs, wherein the schedule includes a description of the multimedia file selected, day and time for the download, and

download information; and

based on the inputs received through the interface, accessing and downloading over the data network, the selected multimedia files from selected remote sites.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising at least one of the following additional steps:

storing the multimedia files in memory; and

playing the selected multimedia files.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11 wherein only a predetermined number of multimedia files may be stored in memory.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the multimedia files are retrieved according to a time schedule.

14. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the data network is the Internet.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended): The method of claim 13 wherein any scheduling conflicts between the ~~playing~~ downloading of multimedia files ~~is automatically resolved~~ are detected and the downloading is rescheduled as necessary to resolve conflicts.

17. (Original): The method of claim 10 wherein the listing is created based on topical categories.

18. (Original): The method of claim 17 wherein the topical categories are amended based on the received inputs.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the listing is created and transmitted automatically on a periodic basis.